

ARLINGTON PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

August 10, 2021

Approved 4-0-1 on October 26, 2021

The Town of Arlington Park and Recreation Commission came to order for its online virtual meeting via Zoom on Tuesday August 10, 2021 at 7:00pm.

Preliminary Matter: Phil Lasker, Park & Recreation Commission Chair, took formal attendance via a roll call. Mr. Lasker read a statement pertaining to Governor Baker's Public Meeting Law change due to COVID-19 regarding virtual meetings. Meeting business ground rules and procedures were also covered by Mr. Lasker.

Commission Members: Leslie Mayer, Jen Rothenberg, Phil Lasker, Shirley Canniff and Sarah Carrier. Recreation Director Joe Connelly was also present. Scott Walker was not in attendance.

Anticipated Speakers: Nolan McDonnell, Will McMillan, Liz Reisberg, Amber Espar

Members of the Public : Amelia Turner, Hyun-A Park, Lorri Berenberg, Steven Edson, Julia McLaughlin, Evan Gerber, Jesse Beccher, Elizabeth Lehtonen, Evelyn Ginsparg, Andrew Hodgdon, Mark Heller, Margit Griffith, Ginna Reeder, Jacob Fris, Thomas Powers, Johanna Meyer, Carol Band and Lily Chung.

Open Forum – Public Comment

N/A

Eagle Scout Proposal Turkey Hill

Nolan McDonnell presented his Eagle Scout Community Service Project proposal to the Commission. Mr. McDonnell lives in the Turkey Hill area and would like to give back to his neighborhood by repairing and/or upgrading the existing stairs, handrails and support posts. ConCom and Building Inspector Ciampa have already been consulted and the decision rests with PRC. The anticipated cost of \$1,200 will be incurred completely by Mr. McDonnell which will be supported by fundraising through GoFundMe. Mr. Connelly will provide waivers for additional helpers for the project. Ms. Carrier request that photos of progress be shared with the Commission. Once approved by the Commission, the project will be reviewed and approved by the scouting board. Anticipated completion is by the end of October. Ms. Mayer motioned to approve the request, seconded by Ms. Canniff and approved 4-0.

Arlington-Belmont Crew Proposal for Changes to Boat Storage Area

Mr. Connelly, Ms. Mayer and Ms. Rothenberg provided an update on the tree stump removal following an on-site meeting with Emily Sullivan. The stump is outside the ConCom flood zone (100 feet) and is OK to remove. Permission will be requested from the tree warden, Tim Lecuivre. Abutters invited to the walk through brought the following concerns: fencing and what would be stored in the fenced area, responsible parties for cleaning and restroom location. The Commission requested more details on the following: property line, potential design and location for storage structure, parking and paving. A-B Crew will do a full survey of the property and provide to PRC for further discussion.

Town Wide Playground Working Group

Mr. Connelly will be discussing playground audits with Reale Associates by September 1, 2021.

Special Events and Film Request

True Story Theater – Spy Pond Park

Amber Espar presented requests for three small performances at Spy Pond Park by a cast of 5-6 actors and an anticipated audience of 20-30 members. All Covid protocol will be honored. Mr. Connelly will check the schedule for potential conflicts with Spy Pond Fun Day and Saturday baseball game schedule. Ms. Mayer advised Ms. Espar to review the content and theme to ensure that it is family-friendly. Ms. Espar stated that the content is improvised. Ms. Rothenberg suggested performing at three different parks for accessibility to potential audience members. Ms. Canniff inquired about advertising. Advertising will be done through an email newsletter and Facebook page followed by approximately 1000 members. However, typical attendance is between 20-30 individuals.

Ms. Canniff motioned to approve the request, pending scheduling review and contingent on success of performance on September 18, seconded by Ms. Mayer. Approved 4-0.

Capital Project Updates

Reservoir Phase II Building Project

There are no changes to report. The second shower has been installed but under repair. Backordered materials are due to be delivered by September 21, 2021.

Reservoir Phase II Site Work Project

The majority of the path has been completed. Work is being conducted on the boat ramp. Playground installation will be completed mid-September. The Reservoir beach will close next week. Mr. Lasker requested a look at the rocks and sand at the site. Due to a rushed opening this year, the normal procedure was expedited.

ADA path Summer Street Complex

Path will be installed this week.

Mountain Biking Feasibility Study Update

Study has been sent to purchasing. Contracts are pending.

FY22 Projects

Capital applications due on August 27. CPA Preliminary applications are due by October 18. Mr. Connelly and Ms. Mayer will attend the meeting this Monday, August 16. FY23 projects have been prioritized – Hurd and Robbins playground. FY24 – Menotomy playground, Poets and biking trail. FY25 – Scannell and Thorndike.

Recreation Updates

Open Space and Recreation Plan

There are openings due to Mr. Vaillette's resignation.

The Town Day 5K Road Race will take place on September 18. Town Day has been cancelled. A one day alcohol permit has been requested from the BOS. Ali Carter has sent requests to local restaurants for donations. Two restaurants will provide breakfast and lunch for the event.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from 5/25 and 6/8 were tabled due to no quorum. A motion to approve the minutes from 6/22, as amended, was made by Ms. Rothenberg, seconded by Ms. Mayer. Approved 3-0. A motion to approve the minutes from 7/13, as amended, was made by Ms. Mayer, seconded by Ms. Rothenberg. Approved 4-0.

Comments and Items for Future Meetings

- a. Carry-In, Carry-Out Trash Policy Discussion
- b. Hills Hill Unauthorized Trail Building Discussion
- c. Open Space and Recreation Liaison

Other

Fishing Lines in Parks

Off-leash expansion

Invasive species control and replanting

Pickleball hours

Priority for September 14 :

Determine if special meeting is required to discuss business in parks. Previous permit holders will be notified.

Off-leash dogs in parks. An agenda item will be added to discuss plan of action to address petition for extended hours. Pickleball requests.

Ms. Canniff made the motion to adjourn the meeting. This motion was seconded by Ms. Rothenberg. Motion to adjourn the meeting was approved by Commissioners, 4-0, at 9:02pm.

The Arlington Park & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes were respectfully submitted by Deanna Stacchi.